# Alekster Today Where Life is Worth Living!

Vol. 34 No. 3

**News From Your Town Government** 

July 2021



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Is There a Dog Park in our Future?
We Want Your Input



A Webster Consolidated Sewer System Putting The Pieces Together

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Webster
Parks & Recreation Survey
Help Us To Serve You Better

# YOUR TOWN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

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# **Dorothy (Dolly) Maguire**

Town Clerk/Tax Receiver dmaguire@ci.webster.ny.us Phone: (585)-872-7060

### **TOWN COURT**

# Hon, David T. Corretore

Webster Town Court courtclerk@ci.webster.ny.us Phone: (585) 872-7020

# **TOWN COURT**

Hon. Thomas J. DiSalvo Webster Town Court courtclerk@ci.webster.ny.us Phone:(585) 872-7023



# 911 for Police, Ambulance or Fire Deptartment

Animal Control/Code Enforcement - Nick Mooney

Phone: (585) 872-7009

Fire Marshall - Andrew Vorndran Phone: (585) 872-7040

Webster Senior Center

Phone: (585) 872-7103 Ext. 7105

W.A.S.P.S Phone: (585) 216-7829 https://www.websterwasps.com

# **WEBSTER TOWN SUPERVISOR**

To my Webster friends,

How awesome was 4th of July weekend this year!? With most, if not all, Covid restrictions lifted I think we all have a better appreciation for things we may have taken for granted prior to March 2020. As we enter the Summer of 2021, I am very excited for what the rest of the year and into 2022 has in store for the great town of Webster, NY!!

The July 2021 edition of *Webster Today* is the first that also has an "online" presence. Simply go to **www.websternytoday.gov** and you will be able to see the whole edition, including direct links to the

questionnaires on Dog Park, Recreation activities, Police, and Sewer. As the cover of the edition reflects, the proposed Sandbar Park project has some amazing aspects to it. To me, this is the quintessential "turning lemons into lemonade". Where flooding in 2017 and 2019 was devastating, it did spawn on REDI grants from New York state that are foundational to this fantastic project.

So grab a lawn chair, sit back, relax and enjoy the July 2021 edition of *Webster Today*.

As always, I'd love to hear from you!



Thomas J. Flaherty
Town Supervisor

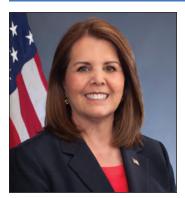
Sincerely,

Tom Flaherty

Webster Town Supervisor Phone: 585-872-7068

Email:supervisor@ci.webster.ny.us

# **WEBSTER TOWN BOARD**



Patricia Cataldi
Town Councilwoman
Deputy Supervisor
11 Years of Service



William Abbott
Town Councilman
13 Years of Service



Barry Deane
Town Councilman
11 Years of Service



John Cahill Town Councilman 2 Years of Service

# Webster Senior Center

AT WEBSTER PARKS & RECREATION



# **UPDATE ON LUNCH CLUB 60 PROGRAM**

We are excited to inform you that MCOFA is working diligently on a plan to bring back lunches on site at our senior center, in some format. Along with the return of our lunch program, will be the return of van transportation to and from our facility provided by Medical Motors. We are hoping to have something in place by late Summer/early Fall and will communicate the re-opening of the Lunch Club 60 program as soon as we can. Contact us for more information or updates!

# **TALKS ON TUESDAY**

COUPLES WHO THRIVE AFTER 55 7/13 at 10:30 AM by Author, Gary R. Jay

RED WINGS BASEBALL 7/20 at 10:30 AM by Dan Mason, GM Rochester Red Wings

HISTORY OF GENEVA: 7/27 at 10:30 AM

by Anne Dealy, Director of Education & Public Information

# **ONGOING PROGRAMS**

The Webster Senior Center is proud to announce programs are still ongoing including Bingo, Bridge, Chair Yoga, Do the "Write" Thing, Euchre, Exploring the Bible, Friday Knitters, Mahjong, Mindfulness, and Theraband! Registration is required for all of our programs by calling 872-7103, stopping in person or registering online!

Daphne Geoca Senior Coordinator

1350 Chiyoda Drive | Webster NY 585-872-7103 x7105 dgeoca@ci.webster.ny.us



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!



https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/104/Parks-Recreation

# **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**



Pat Stephens brings 13 years of experience in the engineering and civil construction field to the Highway Department. After attending the Rochester Institute of Technology for Civil Engineering Technology he began his career as a civil engineer in Vermont where he worked on a broad range of design, permitting and land planning efforts

# Meet Webster's New Highway Superintendent

all over the state. His career as a consulting engineer eventually developed a strong focus on water quality permit compliance and construction coordination. He has exten-

"I am honored to have the opportunity to carry on the outstanding tradition of excellence and dedication the Highway Department has established." - Pat Stephens

sive hands on experience working in environmentally sensitive regions and ensuring the highest level of compliance with state and local guidelines.

His passion for construction coordination led him to take a project manager position with a local sitework and concrete company after moving to Webster in 2014. In this role he was responsible for managing all aspects of new civil construction projects from pre-construction planning to daily coordination of work efforts. In most recent years Pat has managed highway capital improvement projects for a contractor servicing Monroe County and the City of Rochester. This most recent role has allowed him to develop an in-depth understanding of the latest highway maintenance and repair strategies being utilized in New York State.

# Confronting the Emerald Ash Borer

REMOVING DEAD TREES IMPACTED BY THE BEETLE

Ash trees in Webster are currently experiencing infestations by the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle. Adult beetles leave distinctive D-shaped exit holes in the outer bark of the branches and the trunk.

When the tree becomes infested, the tree canopy will show signs of die-back, yellowing, and browning of leaves. According to the NYS DEC, the trunk of the tree will have large strips of bark falling off, revealing S-shaped larval galleries. Most trees will die within 2 - 4 years of an infestation.

Ash trees in Webster, NY have unfortunately been impacted by the invasive Emerald Ash Borer and in 2020 over 400 trees were removed. In 2021, the Town continues the effort on identifying infected trees. Dying and dead trees propose a potential safety threat and the Town is working quickly to identify and address the issue.

If you are a homeowner, worried about a tree on your property, the Town of Webster has a procedure in place to help you identify if it is in fact impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer. You are encouraged to submit a request for the town to review the tree in question by visiting:

https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/568/Tree-Maintenance

For additional information from the DEC on the Emerald Ash Borer visit:

https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7253.html







Unhealthy Ash Tree



# **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

# Meet Webster's New Town Engineer



Supervisor Tom Flaherty has announced Mary Herington as the Town Engineer and leader of the Engineering Department. Herington comes to Webster with a valuable background in both consulting engineering and working for a municipality (Monroe County). She is a licensed Professional Engineer with a passion for wastewater engineering. Herington is an active member of the professional organization, New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA) and has presented at the

local, state, and national level. This year she was awarded the Young Professionals Service Award, which is awarded to one member statewide for their leadership and involvement in the Association.

Herington's background includes leading multi-discipline design teams and being project manager for large facility projects. Her dynamic experience includes performing detailed design work, budgeting, scheduling, and ensuring compliance with regulatory agencies. These tasks were accomplished while managing the clients, consultants, developers, and contractors who make up the project teams.

The Engineering Department is committed to diligent reviews during the design and construction phases of projects, as well as providing engineering support to the other Town departments. For more information on the Department, please visit:

https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/590/ Engineering

# Police Survey

The principal goals of the Webster Police Department include: the protection of life and property; resolution of conflict; the creation and maintenance of a feeling of security in the community; reduction of opportunities for the commission of crime through crime prevention strategies; identification, apprehension, and prosecution of offenders and the preservation of the peace.

We are continually looking to improve our services and need to have your participation! Please take a few minutes and provide your perspective by using this link to access the survey:







# WEBSTER BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT Village of Webster

# We. Are. Back! Events Summer 2021

Christmas in July! Nightly events and activities including the movie Elf shown in the park on July 23 and a family fun Beer Garden on Main Street with music by Steve Bartolotta on July 27.



# Friday Night Gazebo Concerts Judah Sealy Jazz Concert

July 9 - 7:00-9:00 PM Webster Village Gazebo Park

# The Red Hot And Blue Band

July 23 - 7:00-9:00 PM Webster Village Gazebo Park



# **Movies in the Park**

Our family **Movies in the Park** are back for 2021. Starting in July and running through August on **Tuesday evenings** in the Village's Gazebo Park.

July 13: **Trolls** 8:30-10:30 PM July 27: **Elf** 8:30-10:30 PM August 10: **Sing** 8:30-10:30 PM Aug 24: **Honey I Shrunk the Kids** 8:30-10:30 PM



# 2021 Webster Jazz Festival

The **2021 Webster Jazz Festiva**l is back, scheduled for the weekend of September 17th and 18th. Two days of star-studded jazz lineups throught out the Village. Times, locations and artist lists coming really soon!

# **Jazz in the Pubs**

Sept 17: 6:00-11:00 PM 130 West Main St. Rochester **Jazz on the Street** 

Sept 18: 4:00-11:00 PM 130 West Main St. Rochester

https://www.facebook.com/webstervillage/



# Dog Park?

EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR A PUPS PLAYGROUND IN THE TOWN OF WEBSTER



The Town of Webster has begun exploring options for a Dog Park. Where and how this will be executed will be determined with feedback from you and our Webster community!

Please take a few minutes to complete our brief survey prior to August 20. The data collected will help with future plans and development.

We appreciate your feedback and your time!

The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and can be found at:

https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/603/Surveys

# THE WEBSTER NUMBERS REPORT

In August 2020, a public presentation via Zoom was conducted by the Village and Town Engineering firms Labella and Barton & Lagoudice. The 38-page slide deck from that presentation can be reviewed as a pdf at https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/105/Sewer-Department. This presentation showed "the numbers" estimated at that time for the Village and the Town "separate" sewer improvements, and for a Webster Consolidated Community Sewer system.

# **CONSOLIDATED SEWER SYSTEM** FOR THE VILLAGE & TOWN?

increasing prices due to the supply-demand advantage they then had. By further drying out the sludge at the Phillips Road campus, the town or consolidated community sewer system will save a lot of money in the future and not be subject to the potential landfill monopoly on setting prices, and have a discharge that is great for fertilizer!!!

A lot has occurred in the past eleven months that have affected those "numbers" presented in August 2020. At the time this article went to press, the Village Board was discerning a presentation done on June 10, 2021 at a joint meeting of the Village Board of Trustees and the Town Board. That presentation was done by the moderator of a 7-person working group/ad hoc committee formed in early 2021 to investigate ways to "fairly and equitably" create a Consolidated Community Sewer System. If you'd like to see the slide deck from that presentation, visit https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/105/Sewer-Department and select the pdf. Three of the main things that have changed since the August 2020 presentation that will affect "the numbers" are as follows:

**1. THE VILLAGE** increased the EDU rate 30% from \$150 to \$195 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Prior to this increase, the EDU rate for the Village was estimated to be lower than a consolidated system for the next 10-15 years. The estimate also showed the Village rate would not approach \$200 until approximately 2035.

**2.THE TOWN** has researched 21st-century technology that will minimize or eliminate the **sludge hauling** costs at a town-only or consolidated community sewer system. In 2019 the sludge hauling costs for the town increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000 due to landfills that take in such sludge going off line and/or

**3.Most likely**, the Village will be looking at \$1.5-2.0 million additional cost in their first phase of a "Village-only asset replenishment plan." This is due to mandates the New York State DEC will make on improvements at the Village plant within the Village's October 2020 application to obtain their own SPEDES permit if they opt to not go with a Consolidated Community system with the town. For the past 40-plus

years, the Town has held the Village has been an authorized user on it.

# this SPEDES permit, and Consolidated Sewer Funding Opportunities





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Webster village, New York	Monroe.	\$ 37,252	\$ 35,708	\$ 43,750	5,399	5,538	14.9%
Key Items: MHI, popula     Focus on improving Lal				ient redi	uction	"Imp	aired"
Shared Services	IMG Grant Award Overview					91	12
• Hardening & resiliency	CLEAN WATER & DRINKING WATER	mill	ion or 40% of to municipality mu	pply on behalf of	ts	(ronded Cree	
(T) Webster		• IMG DW: final		seeking CWSRF ay only apply for			7
(V) Web	ster				- 1	DEC Pr	iority
IMA						Water Bo	dy List

# **ACTUAL USER COST - A 5 YEAR HISTORY**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Village	\$98.00	\$98.00	\$120.00	\$150.00	\$195.00
Town	\$168.00	\$168.00	\$173.00	\$187.00	\$192.00

Note: EDU rate set annually by municipality governance takes into account several variables including current fund balance/reserve levels, new debt taken on via bonding, and anticipated costs to run the plant

# 2021 EDU CONVERTED TO TAX RATE PER \$1,000 ON AVERAGE ASSESSED VALUE OF HOME IN MUNICIPALITY

Village: Average assessed value \$118,000. EDU charge of \$195 equates to \$1.65 per \$1000 **Town:** Average assessed Value \$176,000. EDU charge of \$192 equates to \$1.09 per \$1000



	2017		2018		2019		2020		
	Village	Town	Village	Town	Village	Town	Village	Town	
Revenue	\$800,000	\$2,890,000	\$741,000	\$2,910,000	\$781,000	\$3,060,000	\$947,000	\$3,300,000	
Expense	\$857,000	\$1,540,000	\$758,000	\$1,710,000	\$868,000	\$2,150,000	\$826,000	\$2,070,000	
Fund Balance Reserves	\$216,000	\$7,680,000	\$98,000	\$7,090,000	(\$55,000)	\$7,210,000	\$276,000	\$6,140,000	

- Village increased EDU charge from \$150 to \$195 in 2021-2022 budget for the purpose of building fund balance/reserve
- Town fund balance/reserve has decreased the past 4 years due to upgrades to pump stations and main sewer lines in town
- Pump stations and mains are part of collection system and NOT part of treatment at the sewer plant

Webster Where Life is Worth Living! Webster Where Life is Worth Living!

# EXPLORING WEBSTER'S SANDBAR PARK

WEBSTER SANDBAR WATERFRONT PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Sandbar Park is comprised of 12.4 acres the Town Of Webster obtained through a combination of parcel purchases, and also a donation of parcels from town citizen John Casciani, beginning in 2003. The Park has over 2,500 feet of Lake Ontario frontage and over 2,100 feet of Irondequoit Bay frontage making this area very unique and special for the residents of Webster. The Waterfront Improvement Project includes a variety of amenities and upgrades on both Lake Ontario and Irondequoit Bay.







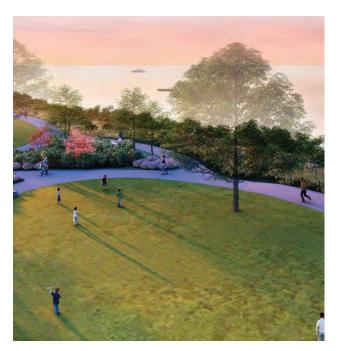
- Kayak/Canoe launch on Irondequoit Bay
- Improved parking on North & South side of Lake Road
- Observation/Fishing platform on Irondequoit Bay
- Boardwalk with an Environmental Education area on Irondequoit Bay
- Shared walking/biking paths along Irondequoit Bay and Lake Ontario
- Shade structure and seating on Lake Ontario
- Natural play areas on Lake Ontario
- Improved green space and lawn area on both Lake Ontario and Irondequoit Bay
- Maximum 2400 square foot facility to be utilized as private restaurant or town lodge pending RFP process

# To learn more about the Sandbar Park Project visit:

http://ci.webster.ny.us/522/Sandbar-Park-Project

# **WEBSTER REDI PROJECT**

# LAKE ROAD REALIGNMENT & FLOODWALL



In response to the extended pattern of flooding along the shores of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, Governor Cuomo created the Resiliency & Economic Development Initiative (REDI) to increase the resilience of shoreline communities and bolster economic development in the region.

Five REDI regions, comprised of eight counties (Niagara and Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, Cayuga and Oswego, Jefferson and St. Lawrence) were established to identify local priorities, at-risk infrastructure and other assets, and public safety concerns.

The REDI Commission allocated \$20 million for homeowner assistance, \$30 million to improve the resiliency of businesses, and \$15 million toward a regional dredging effort that will benefit each of the eight counties in the REDI regions. The remaining \$235 million has been allocated towards local and regional projects that advance and exemplify the REDI mission.

# For more information on REDI visit:

https://www.governor.ny.gov/programs/lake-ontario-resiliency-and-economic-development-initiative-redi

REDI is an essential component of the projects along Lake Road and Sandbar Park, due to flooding events in 2017 & 2019. The Town of Webster received grant monies through REDI to make the following improvements:

- To protect roadway access for the homes and businesses along Lake Road. Portions of the roadway will be raised and moved closer to the lake side.
- To ensure a reliable sanitary sewer system function, flood walls will be installed to protect wastewater pump stations for both the Town and County, which are currently located at grade level.
- To make grade level higher than the max flood elevations of the 2017 / 2019 flood events, the area will also be raised up by +/- 4 feet.
- Realignment of Lake Road to increase park land along Irondequoit Bay.
- Construction of a new floodwall to protect Sandbar Park from rising water levels.
- Replacing existing deteriorated non-ADA dock with new ADA public dock



KE ONTARIO R



Where Life is Worth Living!

# **Guidelines for the Town of Webster Zoning Board of Appeals**

by Jamie Newton, Chairman, Webster Town Zoning Board of Appeals



The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is a five-member board that reviews proposed projects that do not meet zoning code requirements.

The ZBA has the authority to grant variances from the code, provided that the applicant meets a set of standards that ensures that there will be no adverse impacts to surrounding properties and that the proposed action is in character with the existing surroundings.

There are two primary types of variances that are issued by ZBA. **Area Variances** are for projects that cannot meet the dimensional requirements of the zoning code such as setbacks from property lines or number of signs allowed for a commercial business. Use Variances are for making exceptions to permitted land uses within specific zoning districts.

Applicants seeking variances from the ZBA must submit a complete application and supporting evidence (plans, pictures, letters of support from neighbors) and/or documentation to support their case for the board to review. Board members then perform site visits to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed action, if any.

A public hearing is then scheduled for applicants to present their case before the Board. Members of the general public and/or neighbors have an opportunity to speak in favor, or against, the application, The Board typically makes a determination at that time, unless additional supporting documents or pieces of information are requested.

**STEP 1: SUBMIT DOCUMENTS**  **PUBLIC HEARING** 

**STEP 3:** FINAL APPROVAL





Sheds

**Additional** Signage

Interpretation

If you have questions about the workings of the Webster Zoning Board of Appeals, proposed projects, or development, you can reach us by calling 585-872-7032.

For more information visit:

https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/552/Zoning-Board











# Parks & Recreation

IN THE TOWN OF WEBSTER

The Town of Webster Parks and Recreation
Department is dedicated to offering residents broadbased leisure opportunities, a balanced system of
park lands, preservation of open spaces and the enhancement of environmental and cultural qualities
that will foster the growth of healthy lifestyles.

As we continue to grow and foster in the community we look to those that utilize our programs and space the most...you! The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for assistance in expanding programs, events and services of the most interest. Please take a few minutes by visiting the link below to answer a few questions on ways we can best do this.

We look forward to hearing from you and growing together!

The survey can be found at:

https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/603/Surveys



# Consolidated or Separate Sewers for the Village & Town

# Decision 2021:

Since 2015, the Village and Town governances have been discerning how to replace the aged-out infrastructure at the two (2) sewer plants in the Community: the Village plant on Wall Road, and the Town Plant on Phillips Road. On pages 10 & 11 of *Webster Today* is more information on this subject.

Ultimately it comes down to two separate plants going forward or a Consolidated Community Sewer system.

Want to chime in on this decision? Please visit the following link to complete the survey:

# https://www.ci.webster.ny.us/603/Surveys





Webster 17 Where Life is Worth Living!

# Daniel Webster

It was a warm day, July 25, 1837, when the esteemed statesman and orator Daniel Webster came to Rochester, NY, to give a speech on the future of the U.S. economy on behalf of the Whig Party which he had helped form. A group of

farmers and active Whig members who

were based in North Penfield were so im-

pressed with Webster's speech that they

decided to form their own town and

name it after the acclaimed politician.

They petitioned the state legislature to establish a separate town from what had been North Penfield. They were granted this status and on February 6, 1840, that area of Penfield was officially established as the town of Webster, NY, with a population of 2,235. It is unknown if Daniel Webster even knew the town was named



# Lawyer, Orator, Statesman and Namesake of

# Webster, NY

by Bruce Pilato, Publisher

after him, and it is unlikely he ever came here to see it.

He was born in 1782, just six years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. As a lawyer, he was soon recognized as a brilliant orator, and that led him into politics. Eventually he represented both New Hampshire and Massachusetts in the U.S. Congress, and would go on to serve as the nation's Secretary of State under Presidents William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, and Millard Fillmore.

He aligned himself with three different political parties during his lifetime: the Federalist Party, the National Republican Party, and the Whig Party. He unsuccessfully ran in the 1836 presidential election, and when William Harrison was elected

in 1840, he accepted the post of Secretary of State.

Between 1814 and his death in 1852, Webster argued over 200 landmark cases before the Supreme Court. He is generally regarded as one of the most effective lawyers in U.S. history, winning the vast majority of his cases with his impactful oratory skills.

Webster was memorialized in the "The Devil and Daniel Webster." Originally published as a short story in 1936 by American writer Stephen Vincent Benét, it tells a tale of a New Hampshire farmer who sells his soul to the devil and is later defended by Daniel Webster. A film version, entitled All That Money Can Buy, was an Academy Award winner in 1941.



# GREAT BOOKS ...AND SO MUCH MORE



All-Ages Summer Reading
Program - this year's theme is
all about animals: Tails and
Tales. The more minutes you
read (or listen), the more
chances you have to win great
prizes. To participate virtually go

to **websterpubliclibraryny12.readsquared.com** or in-person stop in and pick up a summer reading bookmark to get started!



The Friends of the Library continue to offer outdoor book sales – give us a call at 585-872-7075 to let you know when the next one is!



Hoopla is Now Available! We are now offering the streaming service called HOOPLA. Hoopla provides access to music, TV shows, movies, audiobooks,

eBooks, and comics/graphic novels. Just download the materials straight onto your phone or tablet, or even stream them to your TV instantly! Learn more and get started here:



**Our YouTube Channel** features a video series called, *Let's Explore Webster!* The library staff have been visiting various

locations throughout Webster filming short videos. Learn about our home town!



Story Times and Dance Parties at the Amphitheater in Harmony Park Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 am. Registration required - all ages welcome!



Mobile Hotspots To Borrow
Going on vacation to the
mountains? The library now
has T-Mobile Wi-Fi units for
check-out with your Monroe
County Library card. Each unit
can connect to 15 devices. If
you have questions, feel free to
contact the library at:

webster.reference@libraryweb.org or call 585-872-7075, ext. 3.



CD Players For Loan – for people who enjoy listening to books on CD or music CDs, but they can't find their player anymore and their car doesn't have one – the library has the answer! Check out our portable players!

HTTPS://WWW.WEBSTERLIBRARY.ORG

About the

Webster Today
Front Cover
The cover illustration displays
fishing access to Irondequoit

Bay and multi-use trails in Sandbar Park.

Provided to us by

# **Bayer Landscape Architecture**

ure

Town of Webster

1000 Ridge Road

Webster, NY 14580









Proposed shade structure and seating overlooking Lake Ontario